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* The Signal Regiment is one of the largest and most diverse branches of the Army. Its mission is to provide worldwide information systems and networks for real-time command and control of Army, joint and combined forces.

Today's Signal officers encounter unpredictable challenges that test their tactical and technical abilities. Along with these challenges, however, are tremendous opportunities for advancement and personal satisfaction. From the foxhole to the White House, Signal officers plan, install, integrate, operate and maintain the Army's strategic, operational and tactical communications infrastructure as well as voice and data information systems, services and resources supporting wartime and peacetime operations.

As part of the Signal Regiment, Signal officers work hand in hand with Functional Area 24 (information systems engineering) and FA 53 (information systems management) officers to provide seamless, secure, consistent and dynamic information systems at all levels - from the

fighting platform to the sustaining base - supporting Army, joint Defense Department and combined warfighting missions with allied nations. Also key to the Regiment's work are its enlisted soldiers and warrant officers.

Signal officer's role

Signal officers command Signal units engaged in installing, operating, administering and maintaining wide area information systems and networks supporting tactical, theater, strategic and sustaining base operations. As commanders, Signal officers plan, coordinate and supervise training, administration, operations, supply, maintenance, transportation, security activities and resource allocation for Signal units and facilities.

Signal officers also serve as technical advisers by providing detailed technical direction and advice to commanders, staffs and other command, control, communications and computer users at all echelons on installing, operating and maintaining distributed database systems, teleprocessing systems and data communications supporting battlefield automated systems.

Signal officers are typically assigned to maneuver units, such as infantry or armor battalions and brigades, as Signal platoon leaders and as primary staff and technical adviser (S-6) to the commander. With technology's advancements and the Army's initiatives - such as the digitized division and the Army After Next - the S-6's role has become increasingly critical in providing the right information to the right individuals at the right time.

The S-6 provides non-Signal units linkage to the wide

